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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/568,368	02/14/2006	Yoshimi Enomoto	JP 030017	7541
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EXAMINER				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/568,368

Applicant(s)

ENOMOTO, YOSHIMI

Examiner

Trang U. Tran

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art (Fig. 1, pages 1-2 of the Specification) in view of Nagata et al. (US Patent No. 6,151,079).

In considering claim 1, the admitted prior art (Fig. 1, pages 1-2 of the Specification) discloses all the claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed an A/D converter for A/D converting said analogue picture signal by sampling with said variable clock is met by the A/D converter 1 (Fig. 1, page 1, paragraph #2 to paragraph #3), 2)

the claimed signal separating means for separating the A/D converted picture signal into an A/D converted luminance signal and an A/D converted chroma signal is met by the luminance signal extracting 2 and the chrominance signal extracting 3 (Fig. 1, page 1, paragraph #3 to paragraph #5), 3) the claimed decoding means for decoding said A/D converted chroma signal is met by the chroma decoding 5 (Fig. 1, page 1, paragraph #5 to paragraph #6), and 4) the claimed signal format converting means for a signal format conversion for said display device by using said A/D converted luminance signal and the decoded color signal is met by the format means 6 and the display converting means 7 (Fig. 1, page 1, paragraph #6 to page 2, paragraph #10).

However, the admitted prior art (Fig. 1, pages 1-2 of the Specification) explicitly does not disclose the claimed clock generating means for generating a variable clock for changing a sampling rate of said analogue picture signal depending on a scanning rate in displaying said analogue picture signal on a display device.

Nagata et al teach that the apparatus has a feature that it is provided with a PLL circuit for changing a sampling frequency used by an analog-to-digital converter for converting inputted video signals into digital signals in accordance with the sort of the transmission system of the video signals (see the abstract, Fig. 1, col. 4, line 28 to col. 5, line 35).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the PLL circuit with variable clock as taught by Nagata et al into the admitted prior art (Fig. 1, pages 1-2 of the Specification)'s system in order to

convert video signals of a given transmission system so as to conform to a display unit of a desired screen system, such as VGA, XGA or the like.

In considering claim 2, the claimed wherein said clock generating means generates a constant frequency clock and comprising smoothing means for smoothing the A/D converted picture signal with said constant frequency clock is met by the PLL circuit 3 which selects a first reference value (usually 7/25) which is made to correspond to the transmission system "personal computer video signal" of the video signal B input (Fig. 4, col. 7, line 52 to col. 8, line 35 of Nagata et al).

In considering claim 3, the combination of the admitted prior art (Fig. 1, pages 1-2 of the Specification) and Nagata et al disclose all the limitations of the instant invention as discussed in claims 1-2 above, except for providing the claimed further comprising difference calculating means for obtaining difference information between said variable clock and said constant frequency clock generated by said clock generating means. The capability of difference calculating means for obtaining difference information between said variable clock and said constant frequency clock generated is old and well known in the art. Therefore, the Official Notice is taken. It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the old and well known using of difference calculating means for obtaining difference information between said variable clock and said constant frequency clock generated into the combination of the admitted prior art (Fig. 1, pages 1-2 of the Specification) and Nagata et al's system in order to stabilize the frequency clock generated for using in the converting video signals.

In considering claim 4, the claimed further comprising edge enhancement means for performing edge enhancement process to said luminance signal is met by the edge enhancement 4 (Fig. 1, page 1, paragraph #4 to paragraph #6 of the admitted prior art).

In considering claim 5, the claimed wherein said signal separating means, said edge enhancement means and said decoding means perform signal separating process, edge enhancement process and decoding process by using said difference information respectively is met by the edge enhancement 4, the chroma decoder 5 (Fig. 1, page 1, paragraph #2 to paragraph #8 of the admitted prior art).

In considering claim 6, the claimed further comprising screen size recognition means for recognizing a screen size of said analogue picture signal from said analogue picture signal is met by the format means 6 which changes the picture size to a screen size suitable for a display device (Fig. 1, page 1, paragraph #7 to page 2, paragraph #10 of the admitted prior art).

In considering claim 7, the claimed wherein non-linear display in the horizontal direction is performed by changing a sampling rate of said analogue picture signal depending on a scanning rate in displaying said analogue picture signal on a display device is met by the analog picture signal which subjects to a panoramic simultaneous process in horizontal direction and to non-linear displaying (Fig. 1, page 1, paragraph #9 to page 2, paragraph #10 of the admitted prior art).

In considering claim 8, the claimed wherein said display device is device selected from a group of a liquid crystal display device, a plasma display device and an electroluminescence display device is met by the liquid-crystal display unit 8 (Fig.1, col. 4, lines

28-36 of Nagata et al).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Eglit et al. (US Patent No. 6,765,563 B2) disclose monolithic integrated circuit implemented in a digital display unit for generating digital data elements from an analog display signal received at high frequencies.

Eglit (US Patent No. 5,739,867) discloses method and apparatus for upscaling an image in both horizontal and vertical directions.

Iwamura (US Patent No. 5,844,623) discloses television with integrated receiver decoder.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trang U. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7358. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM, Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lin Ye can be reached on (571) 272-7372. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

March 15, 2009

/Trang U. Tran/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2622